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HUMAN EVENTS

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News Section

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Tides of Battle: Conservatives of both parties dealt hammer blows in defense of a sound economy last week, and there may be more to come.

Republican Representative John Taber (N.Y.) stoutly backed up Democratic Representative "Judge" Howard Smith (Va.), who sits at the head of the powerful Rules Committee. Smith wants to abolish "backdoor" financing, which bypasses Congress and lets bureaucrats get their money direct and unimpeded from the Treasury. This practice cost taxpayers about $4 billion last year.

It is noted also that Chairman Wilbur Mills (D.-Ark.) of the House Ways and Means (tax-initiating) Committee and Chairman Clarence Cannon (D.-Mo.) of Appropriations are also backing Smith. That places the three most powerful House chairmen in opposition to Democratic Speaker Sam Rayburn, who wants to continue the "backdoor" practice. Observers believe that, if Smith wins, "Mr. Sam," with all his "liberal" ideas, may well be shorn of much of his formerly dictatorial power.

Meanwhile, Congressman Cannon comes up with another punch to the spenders—a proposal to cut the size of the bureaucracy (now more than 2,350,000) by leaving unfilled three out of four vacancies that occur in Government jobs, until each department achieves a personnel cut of some 20 per cent below present strength. Thus almost a half-a-million jobs could be eliminated, with healthy effects on the precarious fiscal situation.

Finally, Senator John Williams (R.-Del.) lashes out at the "millions to billions" agricultural support spiral (see story below). Thus, on Capitol Hill, the dike-menders' toil is showing. Not so much can be said about the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue—the White House. True, all in Washington agree that the departure of Sherman Adams has worked wonders with morale in the Executive Mansion, and has freed Ike to take some good sound stands. Nevertheless, what legislators want is more help in their battle under the Dome.

They give high marks to Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield for his courageous speech last month, placing the onus for our economic troubles on the labor bosses, and to Secretary of Commerce Lewis Strauss for his recent intelligent and forthright speech in behalf of fiscal solvency.

As many on the Hill see it, the way still lies open for the Eisenhower-Nixon team to dramatize its evangel, and to assemble its troops. But it should lose no time. For the collectivist forces, led by the labor bosses, are far from diffident. One fact should loom as a warning to conservatives who talk and talk and do nothing in preparation for the general election:

The AFL-CIO has announced it will hold 20 regional training conferences for its "political educators" this year. Last year, on the threshold of its great victory at the polls, it held only nine. *That means that the formidable political machine known as COPE is sharply stepping up its pace. It's a portent.*

Foreign Crisis: Diplomatic Row expresses amusement at the inordinate coverage by the American press of the visit of British Prime Minister Macmillan to Moscow, including details as to his new fur hat, Khrushchev's toothache, *etc.* The interest of foreign envoys is piqued by the fact that, while American press men concentrate on the woes of the Briton, they neglect what Diplomatic Row calls the "real pole of power in Europe"—France.

It is pointed out that, under General De Gaulle, France has now emerged as the strongest military power in Western Europe—much stronger than Britain; not only in weapons and uniformed manpower, but in a fast-recovering economy and, last but not least, the unified spirit of the French nation, which "Big Charlie" has called into being. This constitutes a complete reversal of the posture of France a year ago. Nor is this lost on other nations, whose chanceries respect the new and high prestige of what some call "The Third Empire."

Too little recognized in the United States, says Diplomatic Row, is the virtual alliance now in effect between France and West Germany. A forthcoming meeting in Paris between De Gaulle and Chancellor Adenauer has just been announced. Constantine Brown, diplomatic correspondent of the Washington *Evening Star*, reports that Premier De Gaulle has sent to the US State Department—via the French Embassy here—the following blunt communication:

If Britain and the United States should decide to pull their forces out of Berlin, France is prepared to replace them with French troops to hold the Western zone of that city (France since the end of the last war has kept a small contingent there). This decision, it is said, was made after consultation between De Gaulle and Adenauer.

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Alcorn's Egg: Meade Alcorn, Chairman of the GOP National Committee, laid something last week when he announced a new committee to define Republican policy —judging by reflexes from the GOP on Capitol Hill.

Alcorn named 44 men and women from various walks of life and of various shades of GOP opinion—headed by 39-year-old Charles H. Percy, President of Bell & Howell Co., of Chicago. He included only two members of Congress—Senator Dirksen and Representative Halleck, the two GOP congressional party leaders.

Immediately after the announcement, a chill emanated from Republicans in Congress. Representative Richard Simpson of Pennsylvania, head of the Republican Congressional Committee, told HUMAN EVENTS that the Alcorn-named group "should have included a substantial number of legislators, who by their votes will make policy in the present 86th Congress and on whose record of voting members of Congress will have to run in 1960." Other members were more blunt, terming it "ridiculous" to pick such a committee and to neglect the legislative branch. One remarked: "It's just loaded with docile White House followers."

The latter statement may be too drastic. The membership is a potpourri of many different shades of GOP policy, from left to right. Inclusion of several Deweyites is noticeable. However, among the rank and file of the committee roster there are discernible names of such sound conservatives as Dr. Claude Robinson, public opinion research executive from New Jersey; Daniel Gainey, Minnesota industrialist; Stephen C. Shadegg, manager of Senator Goldwater's last successful campaign.

But those experienced in how such matters are usually run pick out of the roster three individuals who are most likely to write and push through whatever policy statement is eventually issued: *Charles H. Percy,* the chairman; *Gabriel Hauge,* former White House economic adviser; and *Malcolm Moos,* official White House speech writer. Percy is a Republican businessman, primarily a money-raiser, and with no long political training. Hauge is an economist who is distinctly not rated as a conservative. Moos has a long record of association with the "liberal" wing of the GOP.

Reaction against Alcorn's egg is so strong today on Capitol Hill that one hears members suggesting creation of a committee of legislators to define party policy. These are the men who will really create policy during this session on the basis of which the party must select a candidate, and run against the Democrats in 1960.

Labor Front: Sentiment on Capitol Hill (Democratic and Republican) is stiffening against what is regarded as an "arrogant" attitude of the union bosses towards labor legislation. Last week, the AFL-CIO leaders warned that they might not back the bill sponsored by Senator John F. Kennedy (D.-Mass.) unless it contains amendments to the Taft-Hartley bill which the unions demand.

Conservatives in Congress believe that President Eisenhower has blazed an inspiring trail by insisting that, in addition to dealing with corruption in labor organizations, the Congress should pass effective measures restricting secondary boycotts and coercive (or "blackmail") picketing.

One, the secondary boycott, is most vividly exemplified by the five-year-old Kohler Company strike in Wisconsin. This company and its employees resisted efforts by Reuther's United Auto Workers to enforce a union shop, and as a result union organizations in many states sought to prevent use of Kohler products. (See HUMAN EVENTS article, "Can Reuther's Boycott Bring Kohler to Its Knees?" by Father Edward A. Keller of Notre Dame, February 23, 1957.)

The second evil, blackmail picketing, was touched upon in HUMAN EVENTS for February 17, 1958 ("Violence: How the Teamsters Union Terrorizes Small Business"). Often plants wherein neither the employer nor the employees want a union contract are forced to submit, when the Teamsters Union refuses to allow truck deliveries of material through picket lines. As pointed out in the HUMAN EVENTS article, the violence involved in coercing firms, especially small businesses, is considerable.

The Johnson Juggernaut: Old friends of the Majority Leader of the Senate have been saying, anent his whirlwind of laudatory publicity and his increasingly dictatorial methods in the upper house: "Lyndon is riding to a fall."

Some foreboding of such a turn was seen the past week in the arraignment of Johnson by Senator William Proxmire, "liberal" Democrat, on the score that the Majority Leader rams through legislation without regard to the wishes of many of his party. It is suspected that Proxmire launched his attack after encouragement from a number of Northern "liberal" Senators and from influential "liberals" outside the Senate. It was also noted, during the debate, that the only colleagues who arose to defend Johnson were Westerners.

Not a single Southerner, "liberal" or conservative, voiced any sympathy for the Leader. Whether or not this portends a revolt (long reported simmering) among Southern conservatives is a matter of much speculation in the Capital. Conservatives have become increasingly disturbed by the Texas Senator's parliamentary procedures, as he hustles through legislation at breakneck speed, overriding attempts by other Senators to debate and consider legislation.

The momentum of the Johnson Juggernaut recalls examples of the Senate's experience in the last year's session. Last spring, for instance, Lyndon's machine rushed through a bill to increase by $2 billion the lending authority of the Export-Import Bank (now under no little criticism in financial journals). Only a brief committee hearing was given to the measure and only the Bank's side was heard. A bare handful of Senators were on the floor when the leadership called it up for vote.

The measure was passed, but Senator William Jenner (R.-Ind.), coming on to the floor shortly after, demanded reconsideration. He wanted the Senate to be told more about the bill, who required the funds, what they were for. "Surely, we should not vote $2 billion of new liabilities on the American people with so little participation by the Senate as a whole." And he added: "I am disturbed by the speed with which this bill moved."

Quick floor action on many such bills, preceded by deals in the cloakroom, have aroused many on the Hill. The critics have stamped such procedure as "Johnson's

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style." They deem it a violation of the tradition that the Senate is the "deliberative" body in the bicameral legislature. An old metaphor is mentioned: the hot tea of House legislation should be allowed to cool in the Senate.

Civil Liberties, Part I: Legal lightning flashed in Chicago last week, as the American Bar Association went on record with an unprecedented rebuke to the leftward-plunging US Supreme Court.

After a brief tug-of-war over the wording of the report, the ABA convention adopted a full-scale blast against 24 decisions of the Supreme Court concerning the internal Communist threat. The report said: "Many cases have been decided in such a manner as to encourage an increase in Communist activity in the United States through the invalidation of state sedition statutes and limitation of state and Federal investigating powers in the field of subversion, although these cases might readily have been disposed of without so broadly limiting national and state security efforts. . . . The dissenting opinions of certain Supreme Court justices have been crystal clear in charting the effect of the failure of the majority to recognize the underground forces that are at work and to appreciate how these decisions affect our internal security."

HUMAN EVENTS learns from important lawyers who attended the conclave that sentiment there—contrary to the picture given in much of the press—was overwhelmingly in favor of a strong report, taking the High Court to task. One estimate from a high source places the number of dissenting delegates at five per cent or less.

Typical of sentiment at the meeting was one interchange concerning the way the ABA should behave toward the Court. One lawyer felt that the group was playing too roughly with the "nose" of the Court: "I feel pretty chary about rubbing the Supreme Court's nose any more. Let's not push its nose down any more."

His answer was a shout from a whole chorus of delegates—"Why not?" Then his motion to strike a clause unfavorable to the Court was swept to defeat by a booming voice vote.

Civil Liberties, Part II: While Supreme Court partisans lamented that its only interest was to protect "civil liberties," rather than subversion, the Court itself disclosed the falseness of this defense. For, in a decision handed down last week, it showed that when the "civil liberties" involved are not those of Communists or far-out left-wingers, it can shrug them away without a second thought.

Snuffed out by the Court last week, in a decision totalling exactly four words, were the liberties of farmer J. Evetts Haley, Jr., who sought to grow wheat on his own land for his own private uses—and for so doing found himself penalized by the Federal Government. The Government maintains that all farmers, whether they accept subsidies or not, can be ordered to cultivate their land in accordance with "quotas" dictated by Federal bureaucrats.

In a decision last year in Dallas, Federal Judge T. Whitfield Davidson had ruled in favor of Haley, saying that the Government had no power to regulate produce raised for home consumption. The Supreme Court, referring to a previous decision, last week overturned the Davidson ruling with the terse order: "The judgment is reversed."

HUMAN EVENTS, *in an attempt to test the consistency of "liberal" sentiment about civil liberties, this week contacted the Americans for Democratic Action, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, to see if they were aware of, and intended to do anything about, the Haley case. None of these organizations—all of which have in the past taken up the cudgels for identified Communists—had either action or comment to offer.*

Williams of Delaware: Senator John Williams (R.-Del.) a staunch conservative whose name is synonymous with integrity in the Capital, added a further footnote last week to America's agricultural mess—referred to in "Out of the Millions, Into the Billions," in HUMAN EVENTS for February 11, 1959. Williams confirmed the HUMAN EVENTS contention, backed up with documentation from the *Congressional Record*, that the farm-subsidy system operates to the benefit of the big rich farmer, not the small individual.

Three corporations, Williams revealed recently, last year pulled down more than $3.4 million in farm supports—a sum "greater than the total amount received on all crops produced in 1957 by all the farmers in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey."

Williams placed in the *Congressional Record* the names of these farming corporations, together with the amounts they received from the Federal Treasury; he also included the names of 51 other farmers and farms that had received in excess of $100,000.

These statistics, the Senator concluded, show that the present farm-support set up "is little more than a Government guarantee on the operation of corporate type farming and actually encourages and underwrites absentee ownership to the detriment of the small farmers."

Here is the complete list presented by Williams:

OVER $1 MILLION

Cotton	
Delta & Pine Land Co., Scott, Miss.	$1,167,502
Rice	
Producer's Rice Mill, Inc., Stuttgart, Ark.	1,460,902

OVER $500,000

Cotton	
Westlake Farms, Inc., Stratford, Calif.	854,450

OVER $250,000

Cotton	
Morrison Brothers, Higley, Ariz.	481,465
Charles Urrea & Son, Mesa, Ariz.	384,380
W. R. Neely, Chandler, Ariz.	362,214
Hooper and Rugg, Casa Grande, Ariz.	325,279
Phillips and Ellsworth, Mesa, Ariz.	302,924
J. G. Adams & Son, Hughes, Ark.	420,343
W. J. Deal, Mendota, Calif.	370,040
Frank & Jim Garona, Bakersfield, Calif.	350,290
Wilco Produce Co., Blythe, Calif.	323,164
Waldo W. Weeth, Coalinga, Calif.	282,895
Kesey Brothers, Pecos, Texas	323,914
John J. Dorr, Pecos, Texas	253,368
Rice	
George Smith & Tenants, DeWitt, Ark.	316,362
South Texas Rice Farms, Rosharon, Texas	300,477
Wheat	
Campbell Farming Corp., Hardin, Mont.	330,267

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OVER $100,000

Corn	
Emil Savich, Rensselaer, Ind.	157,414
Richard Gumz, North Judson, Ind.	161,329
Wm. Gehring, Inc., Rensselaer, Ind.	140,983
Ernest Hundahl & Sons, Tekamah, Neb.	142,331
Cotton	
J. B. Hain, Sardis, Ala.	156,778
Miller Lumber Co., Marianna, Ark.	233,319
Tillar & Company, Tillar, Ark.	119,366
George B. Franklin & Son, Holly Ridge, La.	128,118
Deltic Farm & Timber Co., Epps, La.	125,443
Dan Seligman, Shaw, Miss.	173,631
Dockery Farms, Cleveland, Miss.	171,116
Woolfolk Farms, Tunica, Miss.	155,787
M. S. Knowlton Co., Perthshire, Miss.	143,349
J. F. Apodaca, La Mesa, N. Mex.	130,391
Tony Salopek, Las Cruces, N. Mex.	119,162
Clark & Roberts, Pecos, Texas	237,328
Ralph's Farms, San Alizario, Texas	209,417
A. L. Cone, Lubbock, Texas	185,566
Rice	
Craighead Rice Milling Co., Jonesboro, Ark.	184,894
W. B. Bynum Cooperage Co., Dermott, Ark.	163,683
Alice Sidney Farms, Jerome, Ark.	114,416
Heidrick Bros., Woodland, Calif.	189,882
J. J. Gayle & Son, Gueydan, La.	149,977
J. A., J. E. and W. B. Layton, Sulphur, La.	108,420
Hood and Hesic Denton, Sulphur, La.	102,040
James K. and Cecil E. Greer, Hollandale, Miss.	142,057
J. W. Adams & Son, J. H. Tigner, A. Farrer & E. W. Bailey, Jr., Angleton, Texas	161,373
Briscoe Production Company, Alvin, Texas	126,721
Lazy K Ranch, Garwood, Texas	115,594
George P. Nelson, Katy, Texas	100,594
Wheat	
J. H.-N. M. Monaghan Farms Co., Derby, Colo.	214,872
Sprague Brothers, Holyoke, Colo.	112,301
Kjeldaard Bros., Big Springs, Neb.	102,037
Henry C. Hitch Ranch, Guymon, Okla.	101,780
Amanda Duvall, Heppner, Ore.	104,988
L. C. Staley, Pullman, Wash.	103,573

Nepotism: The revelation that a freshman Democratic Congressman from Iowa, Steven V. Carter, had placed his 19-year old son on the pay roll at $11,873 annually has the Capital stirring once more over the subject of nepotism.

The practice of putting relatives on the office staff seems to be particularly rife among the new crop of Democrats—other practitioners including Iowa Congressman Leonard Wolf (his wife gets $13,344), Ohio rookie Robert Levering (his wife gets $12,527), Connecticut Representative Emilio Q. Daddario (his wife gets $7800).*

All told, according to figures made available by the House of Representatives, 44 Democrats and 21 Republicans have relatives on their staffs, drawing salaries that range from the $774 paid to the daughter of Congressman George Meader, Republican of Michigan, to the $13,344 maximum paid to Willie Harris (brother of Arkansas' Oren Harris), James Kee (son of West Virginia's Elizabeth Kee), and to the wife of Iowa's Congressman Wolf, mentioned above.

In some cases, Capital veterans note, a strong case can be made for the argument that a Congressman's wife or son is his "alter ego" and valuable enough to rate a top staff salary. This is true, however, only when the relative in question has been around Washington long enough to become versed in the refinements of its maneuvering, and equipped with the necessary personal contacts and maturity of judgment. Under this standard, the family approach to office staffing adopted by a number of freshman Democrats would not qualify as legitimate.

* Since these figures were published, some of these Congressmen have moved to reduce their relatives' salaries.

Cuba: The Castro regime has hailed the appointment of Philip W. Bonsal, American Ambassador to Cuba, as launching a "new era" in US-Cuban relations. Washingtonians note that, if past experience is any guide, Castro's jubilation is fully justified—since there is at least one incident on record demonstrating that Bonsal has been alert to subordinate United States interests to those of Cuba.

The incident in question was related by the Hon. Spruille Braden, himself a former Ambassador to Cuba, in testimony given before the Internal Security Subcommittee in 1954. Braden reported an episode in which the Cuban Government sought to seize American holdings in Cuba; in attempting to protect the US interest, Braden found himself battling not only the Cuban Government but the American State Department.

Among those who told Braden that the US should let Cuba take over the American property was Lawrence Duggan, political adviser to the Secretary of State on Latin American affairs (identified under oath as a member of a Communist underground group).

Senator Watkins questioned Braden: *"Are those same fellows that argued that way . . . still there?"*

Braden: *"Mr. Duggan, has of course, since died. His assistant, Mr. Bonsal, is in the State Department . . . "*

"Was he one of those arguing?"

"He stated to me over the telephone that he agreed with the Cuban intervention [in seizing US property]; he remonstrated at my taking a vigorous stand and thought I was pretty much out of order."

Goldwater Award: The annual award of the American Jewish League Against Communism will be given to Senator Barry Goldwater (R.-Ariz.) at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, at a luncheon March 20. Tickets for this occasion, $7.50 each, may be obtained from Rabbi Benjamin Schultz, 220 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. Previous awards have gone to Senators Bridges and Knowland, Fulton Lewis and David Lawrence.

CLERGYMEN PRAISE HUMAN EVENTS

REV. EDWIN B. WALLACE, Pastor, First Wesleyan Methodist Church, Vineland, New Jersey: "I consider HUMAN EVENTS the finest paper of its kind available. Certainly its contribution to thinking America is of inestimable worth."

E. F. WEBBER, D.D., The Southwest Radio Church of the Air: "I appreciate the splendid service HUMAN EVENTS provides in the greatly needed realm of news appraisal and analysis. Having been an avid reader of your publication for many years, I find it invaluable to me as I often give my network radio audience a summary of current events in the light of Biblical prophecy."

REV. THEODORE E. NESS, Berea Tabernacle, Detroit, Mich.: "I think HUMAN EVENTS is the finest up-to-date news in brief that I have ever read."

PAUL A. HILGENDORF, JR., Pastor, St. James Lutheran Church, Imperial Beach, Calif.: "Thanks! We appreciate HUMAN EVENTS' fine work in giving us the 'other side' of the story."

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Article Section I

THE LIBRARY
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The 'Depressed Areas' Bill

Another 'Liberal' Patent Medicine

By FRANK CHODOROV

IF A SENATE BILL now agitating the gentle soul of the Honorable Paul H. Douglas should become law, there never again will be a ghost town in America.

For should a mine run out of ore, the community which grew up around it would be assured of some way of making a living there under the proposed law. All the folks need do to save their town from extinction is to send a committee to the "Area Redevelopment Administration," qualify their locality as a "depressed area," and, Presto, the mining town will be transmogrified into an industrial area, so that all the ex-miners, bartenders and dance girls will have some take-home pay. Of course, the committee will prosper better if it is chaperoned by the local Congressman, whose good offices will be proportioned to the number of votes in the community.

What kind of plant will replace the defunct mine? The committee will probably have a few suggestions, and the ARA—as the proposed bureaucracy will be affectionately called—will surely "make a study." However, it will most certainly be one that no profit-minded capitalist would invest in, and in due time (when the loan money has been expended) the plant will close up. Until that happens, the community will boom again and the Congressman who engineered the loan will have been rewarded by re-election.

This may sound preposterous; but it isn't funny. Last year the Senator from Illinois fostered and put through Congress his "Area Assistance Act," and only the veto of the President prevented it from becoming law. At this writing, a similar bill, supplemented by others having the same purport, is in the legislative mill. We may yet find this costly piece of boondoggling put upon us.

Let us keep in mind that, despite its name, the bill does not aim to give assistance to areas temporarily in distress because of some disaster, like a drought or a flood. Nor is it intended that this "redevelopment" program will replace current Federal assistance granted, directly or indirectly, to "depressed areas," like the Community Employment Program, the Small Business Administration, the various housing and home financing agencies, the Committee for Rural Development, and so on. These tax-spending devices will still be with us if ARA comes into existence.

The announced aim of the vetoed Douglas Bill was "to establish an effective program to alleviate conditions of substantial and persistent unemployment and underemployment in certain economically depressed areas." Lest this broad generalization provide the Commissioner—yes, there will be one—with opportunities for favoritism, the bill proceeds to lay down criteria for designating an "industrial redevelopment area"; for instance, to qualify, the community must show that 12 per cent of the labor force must have been unemployed (or underemployed) during the 12-month period preceding the date of application.

What a fine opportunity for juggling figures! Will the unemployed statistics include all who have during that year found permanent or temporary employment elsewhere? Will it include newsboys who cannot sell papers to the unemployed? Or housewives who have lost their part-time jobs? To make the criteria even more confusing is that novel word, "underemployed." This would cover anybody who is not earning as much as he could earn at any given time; thus, a waiter in a summer hotel is underemployed in the winter, when the vacation trade goes south, or vice versa. Atlantic City and Miami would thus qualify for assistance; they could ask for help in putting up factories to employ, during off seasons, their "underemployed" charwomen.

Nor must the farm vote be neglected. The bill calls for loans for the erection of industrial plants in rural areas where "there exists the largest number and percentage of low-income families and a condition of substantial unemployment or underemployment." So, if a prolonged drought should hit North Dakota, the local communities could qualify for assistance in putting up a cement plant northeast of Valley City, a steel mill southeast of Devil's Lake and a food processing factory a hundred miles from nowhere. Maybe these unemployed agriculturalists would not know how to operate the machinery in these industrial establishments; but the bill provides for that contingency by authorizing training and apprenticeship programs.

THERE IS NO provision in the bill for inquiry into the conditions that caused an area to become "depressed." Certain parts of the anthracite region of Pennsylvania have been in the doldrums because the coal market has shrunk. This was in part due to the increased use of other fuels, like petroleum. And this shift has been ascribed to the high price of coal, made necessary by the wage demands of the United Mine Workers. Now, what kind of work can be provided for unemployed miners (those who did not change their occupations or move out of the area)

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at wages comparable to the union scale which put them out of work in the first place? The professor from Illinois apparently refuses to consider this problem.

New England became a "depressed" area when its textile mills started moving South some years ago. Why did they move? There were several reasons. For one, union interference with the management of the plants, including opposition to improved machinery, in addition to their uneconomic wage demands; then, the tendency of local communities to load these businesses down with taxes, whereas Southern communities offered them tax concessons of all sorts. As a further attraction, the South was the source of their raw supply.

Despite these advantages, the textile mills have not been doing too well in the South, for two reasons: the shift to synthetic fibers, for one, and the high price of cotton resulting from the Federal price support program. It is doubtful that Senator Douglas would advocate dropping this program so that cotton could be sold to the consumer at a reasonable price, thus stimulating industry in the "depressed" textile areas. His bill, on the other hand, would make it possible for these communities to set up subsidized synthetic fiber plants which would compete with those in existence and thus create new "depressed" areas.

Speaking of New England, it is well to mention the fact that a number of these "depressed areas" have by community efforts restored their economic health. In some cases local capital was invested in industries (like electronics) for which investigation showed there was a market; in other cases plants were induced, sometimes by financial help, sometimes by tax concessions, to move into their towns. It was sound "redevelopment," the kind that would be discouraged if the "depressed areas" bill should become law.

IT IS AN axiom of economics—demonstrated by the case of New England—that when an effective demand appears, a supplier (capitalist) will also appear. Sometimes the supplier will set up shop in anticipation of an effective demand—as when frozen food manufacturers gambled on the housewife's dislike of kitchen drudgery. An effective demand is simply desire backed up with the means of satisfying it.

Government cannot create effective demand; that's something individuals have with them. But, Government can effectively squelch demand by depriving the producer of the results of his efforts; the grower of cabbages cannot satisfy his desire for shoes if the Government taxes away his cabbages. And, if he has no cabbages to exchange for shoes the cobbler will see no point in making them. He becomes an out-of-work capitalist. Then, again, since many taxes are a cost of doing business, the cobbler may have to increase his price accordingly and thus reduce the effective demand for as many shoes as he can produce.

Furthermore, the Government can by taxation and interference discourage the supplier. If excessive taxation reduces his returns to the point where he is not compensated for the risk involved in his venture, or if Government continually harasses him with regulations and controls, and business life becomes unbearable, he may decide to quit. If he quits, or if he does not expand his business, workers will be out of jobs.

There are other causes for unemployment (of both labor and capital)—like union scales that price their members out of effective demand—but all of them are of minor importance compared to taxation and intervention. This ought to be evident even to a professor, but his addiction to complicated phrases induces such a fear of "oversimplification" that he cannot see the obvious. So, when the phenomenon of unemployment shows up, he is inclined to look to the magic of intricacies for explanation and for solution. If only, he reasons, we can put up a plant for making buggy whips, large enough to employ many buggy whip makers, the workers will have wages to spend on buggy whips; whether they want this commodity is unimportant. And that's exactly what will happen if this "depressed areas" bill becomes law. In order to create employment, the Government would invest the taxes—a prime cause of unemployment—in some make-work project.

It is hardly necessary to argue the point that Government-induced or Government-supported capital ventures will not solve the problem of unemployment. In all likelihood such ventures will aggravate the situation. In the first place, the taxes which will have to be raised to support such ventures will cut down effective demand; the bill calls for an initial appropration of $300 million, but it is a foregone conclusion that this amount is only a drop in the bucket to what it will cost when the ARA gets up a full head of steam.

Then, it is in the nature of things that these shored-up industries will be subject to constant surveillance, investigation and regulation, so that they will not be able to operate efficiently. Finally, in order to make these plants work at all, the managers will have to be accorded such privileges as will give them special advantages over private plants in the competitive market, and thus drive the latter out of business.

Of only one thing we may be sure—and that is that the "depressed areas" law will burden the country with another costly, self-serving, inefficient and bothersome bureaucracy.

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Article Section II

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Radioactive Waste—A Peril of the Atomic Age

By DAVID SHEA TEEPLE

RADIOACTIVE WASTES—under an AEC program deceptively called "Waste Disposal"—are today being accumulated at a rate which may very well threaten the future of mankind.

Radioactive wastes are the residues produced from the operation of atomic reactors and chemical processing plants. They may be classified as either "low-level" or "high-level" wastes (depending on the amount of radiation). At the present time we are dumping the low-level wastes into the ocean, allowing them to evaporate in pits or filter themselves through soil formations. It has been estimated that up to this point the United States alone has released over two million curies into the ocean, and by 1980 will have dumped over one billion curies. A curie is defined as the quantity of radiation roughly equivalent to one gram of radium. (Just for comparison, some authorities have estimated that two million curies exceeds the radiation of all the radium in the world prior to 1925.)

No responsible scientist suggests that we and the rest of the world can continue to dump this low-level residue into the world's water supply indefinitely without deleterious effect upon sea life. These effects will eventually be transmitted to humanity.

High-level wastes are produced as a result of the fission products which build up within the fuel elements of atomic reactors. Periodically these fuel elements have to be replaced. In certain types of reactors they are in solid form, in others, liquid.

Regardless of the type, these fuel elements have to be chemically processed to recover the Uranium-235 which did not burn (fission) as well as to extract the plutonium for which the Government pays a subsidy up to $35 per gram. As a result of the chemical processing a liquid residue remains which is toxic, corrosive and highly radioactive.

The extent of the problem is difficult to visualize. At Hanford in the State of Washington, for example, we now have a minimum of 52 million gallons of this material. The stopgap meaures now in use consist of storing the material in stainless steel tanks buried in the ground. Since the material creates heat (around 25 BTU's per hour) it must be cooled, which of course adds to the problem. At Hanford alone we have $114 million worth of steel tanks and a conservative estimate is that it costs us over $2 million annually to maintain and watch the equipment.

It must be emphasized that this is not a "dead storage" but an operation which requires meticulous instrumentation and constant observation. Obviously, stainless steel tanks, like any other man-made product, have a limit to their existence. Some of them are now 15 years old. Sooner or later we may expect trouble.

Additionally, Hanford is not the only storage site. Similar conditions prevail at the atomic plants at Idaho Falls, Savannah River, Oak Ridge, Paducah, Fernald and others. The total amount of waste material on hand can only be estimated, but certainly it exceeds 150 million gallons. Storage tanks at present have cost over $200 million with an annual upkeep of at least $10 million. AEC figures indicate that, if we proceed at the present rate, by the year 2000 (just 40 years away) we will have between 40 million and 50 million gallons *annually* to deal with. (These figures do not include the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France, Canada or others now engaged in reactor operation.)

IF THIS MATERIAL should escape its container vessel and reach the environment in which we live, contamination would be serious. This can occur by the rupture of a tank either as a result of corrosion, a disturbance of the elements (earthquake), or induced sabotage. It also could easily occur while the material was being transported from the reactor site to the chemical processing plant or from the processing plant to the storage site.

In the first instance—from the reactor to the chemical plant—most of the material would be in solid form and would be far less of a hazard. From the plant to the storage site it would be in liquid form and would constitute a cargo with more potential danger than any ever transported by man. The same hazard would apply in the instance of those reactors (known as homogeneous) which produce liquid wastes.

* * *

At this point one might well ask if the Government is not aware of these conditions and is not controlling shipments in such a way as to protect the public interest. Unfortunately, the answer is NO. In the first place, the AEC has assumed the responsibility for all radioactive wastes produced in Government and civilian power plants. At the present time, no Government agency outside itself regulates shipments made by the AEC. And no state has a comprehensive statute to cover the situation. As one prominent scientist stated in a recent seminar: "The AEC can get away with a lot of things that private corporations could not."

Dedicated geologists, geophysicists and health physics experts are hard at work attempting to find satisfactory solutions for the problem of waste storage. They are investigating the possibility of

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fixing these materials in inert matter such as ceramics, plastics, glass and special cements. They are experimenting with various separation processes to remove the most hazardous elements and they are seeking adequate reliable safe storage sites for these dangerous liquids. They are fully aware of the nature of the problem and are utilizing every resource at their disposal in an attempt to find answers.

At the present time no satisfactory answer is in sight. If it is to be found it will only be by the efforts of this unglamorous band of men who are cognizant that in the final analysis the work which they are doing may be the most important in the whole atomic energy project. They are the unsung heroes in this struggle between man and the atom.

Research to date on waste storage, while not providing an over-all solution, has given us certain indisputable facts. They are:

1. Chemical processing plants should be located adjacent to storage sites. 2. Reactors, in so far as possible, should be close to storage sites. 3. Because of geological factors certain areas of the country are not suitable for waste storage and no atomic plants should be located therein. 4. The production of waste materials should be minimized as much as possible until such a time as solutions are found for storage. 5. Research and experimentation on waste separation and storage should be pursued on a scale far exceeding the present operation. 6. The primary criteria for the location of atomic plants should be the question of the feasibility of waste storage at the site.

Those who are determined to get the Government into the production of power for civilian uses and thereby use the atom as a force for socialism proceed merrily ahead without any regard for the points cited above. Their present plans are for the United States to launch a program of civilian power reactors all over the country, at a cost of about a billion dollars in the next five to seven years.

In no instance has the question of waste storage been among the criteria used for location. No scientist, for example, would have had the audacity to locate the Shippingport reactor in the Pittsburgh area; waste material cannot be stored there, but must be shipped, thus increasing the hazard. For the same reason no person in his right mind would have built the gigantic Savannah River plant at Aiken, South Carolina; but political persuasion prevailed.

Knowing what we now know about this problem of radioactive waste, we would never locate the great plants of Oak Ridge and Hanford on the great watersheds they now occupy.

Who can justify the location of the Lagoona Beach reactor adjacent to Detroit? Professor Gomburg of Michigan has warned us that if this ever melts down it could kill 145,000 people. Who wishes to defend the reactor at Hallam, Nebraska? (Nebraska has the largest underground waters in America.)

We must realize that there are certain great corporations who make money out of the construction of these economic monstrosities and who have powerful political lobbies which push some of these deals through. Also, certain states—including New Mexico, which is represented by Senator Clinton Anderson, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy—reap a harvest of hundreds of millions of dollars a year from our atomic activities.

THE TIME has come to call a halt. The advice and counsel of our men of science must be heeded. The public interest must be protected. The hucksters must be stopped, be it by injunction or by state regulation of those matters which concern the health of our people. The AEC, producer and shipper of the wastes, should not be allowed to monitor its own activities. This is a public health function.

We have an ample supply of electric power in the United States. As a matter of fact, if there should be any shortage, it could be traced to the Atomic Energy Commission, which is now using over 15 per cent of the total installed electrical capacity of the United States annually.

Even the most ardent advocates of the socialistic atomic power program do not deny that our fossil fuels will last us for a century. The power bill which the American consumer pays is the last thing which worries the collectivists. Atomic power is ten times as expensive and hazardous and its backers are using it to promote socialism.

No other factor more clearly exposes the fraudulent claims for atomic power costs than the question of waste storage. If the costs of such storage were borne by the operators of atomic power plants instead of by the Government (as they should be in any honest project), the rate per kilowatt for atomic power would zoom out of sight. Furthermore, these costs are permanent and ever-increasing. We are still paying to store the wastes from materials used 15 years ago.

It is time, therefore, that the people of this country took a hand in the matter and demanded that this technology be developed in such a way that it may be of service to man, and not an instrument for his destruction.

David Shea Teeple, a specialist in atomic matters and consultant to industry and Government, first called attention to the dangers of America's civilian atomic program in "Nuclear Nonsense," an article appearing in HUMAN EVENTS for February 11, 1956.

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